

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 remain pending herein. Claims 30 and 31 have been amended hereby.

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to eliminate multiply dependent claims from the above-identified application.

Examination of this application on its merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.

March 14, 2000

Date

Roger W. Parkhurst

Registration No. 25,177

RWP/ame

Attorney Docket No. DAIN:550

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P. 1421 Prince Street, Suite 210 Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2805

Telephone: (703) 739-0220

(rev. 10/97)